

Faulty FCC Laboratory Testing Leads to Irreparable Harm

"Smart" Utility Meters

The ineffectiveness of FCC rules concerning the evaluation of new technology, and the ways in which the FCC applies those rules improperly to approve purported innovations that should not be approved, is demonstrated by the ways in which the FCC's faulty testing of "smart" digital utility meters has utterly failed, and subjected American citizens to irreparable harm.

In 2010, after becoming extremely ill, I learned that my illness was due to electromagnetic radiation (EMR) exposure from "smart" digital utility meters (see Attachment - CHD vs FCC).

Once I identified the digital meters as the source of the offending EMR, I was able to have the meters removed and replaced with the original analog meters. The relief was astonishing although I have never fully recovered. I have been working on addressing the adverse effects of digital meters since that time.

After being told by numerous elected officials and state regulators that I should contact the FCC about the problems caused by digital meters, I contacted the FCC by phone. I had hoped that the phone call would prompt an investigation because other people in my town who had digital meters installed on their homes were also getting sick. An FCC employee answered my call and was so rude that I hung up on him. Minutes later he called me back from a cell phone. Obviously embarrassed about his rudeness and avoiding using an FCC phone, he told me that the FCC knew there was a problem with digital meters. He made some suggestions for addressing the problem but said that the FCC would not help in any way.

It did not take long for me to realize that the FCC, the FDA and state regulatory agencies had failed miserably to protect the public from the harms caused by digital meters, including adverse health effects, electrical fire damage, and compromising security and data privacy. These agencies' approval of digital utility meters without any testing left an unknowing public vulnerable to the obvious harms that these meters would cause.

In 2009, there was an intense campaign by the utility industry and the US Department of Energy, fueled by the promise of federal stimulus funds, to spread digital meters across the US to every utility consumer. Many hundreds of millions of digital meters, right out of boxes shipped from China and untested, were installed across the country.

I and a few neighbors knew that something was terribly wrong with digital meters. For this reason, we hired a professional industry RF engineer to come to our town and test our meters. We knew that the EMR from the meters was behaving unlike any technology that we had ever encountered and we were set on proving that -- which we did. The tests showed that the EMR from the meters was not only transmitting in the air all around the meters, but it was also conducting onto consumers' electrical wiring, causing an "antenna effect" and then re-radiating

along metal surfaces. The testing proved that digital meters create unprecedented and unsafe EMR conditions (see Attachment - Isotrope Report).

It has now been 17 years since this all began. To this day, utilities claim that digital meters are safe because they comply with FCC guidelines. This industry mantra is pure deception. In reality the FCC never properly tested digital meters, as explained below.

FAILED FCC Test:

An FCC accredited laboratory used the Part 15.247 Certification Test to test utility meters. This is not a test designed for utility meters.

In an attempt to fit this test modality for a use for which it was not intended, the lab workers altered the digital meter by adding a power cord to it. They then plugged that power cord into an isolated outlet in the isolated lab room. This test failed to include consumer and utility electrical wiring and the unpredictable variables found within actual electrical systems. In the only test that was conducted, the digital meter was not connected to, nor did it interact with, realistic conditions found within electrical systems, electronic and wireless equipment, building materials and biological systems. This was all part of the rush to get digital meters out and stimulus funds in. By doing this, the FCC completely failed to conduct any testing in the type of realistic circumstances that will determine if the installation of digital meters will cause electrical problems, electronic equipment failures, fires and/or adverse health effects.

Based on this testing – and without any additional testing – the FCC gave license numbers to digital utility meters.

Then, state regulatory agencies across the US approved digital meters based on the fact that the FCC gave digital meters ID numbers.

Without creating special new testing for digital meters, state public utility commissions used test protocols that were designed for testing analog meters for accuracy. This is equivalent to applying the same test methods used for bicycle safety standards to test a Suzuki TM400 Cyclone motorcycle - one of the most dangerous motorcycles ever built.

What's more, none of the promises made by utilities and government agencies since the mid-2000s about how digital meters would lower rates and be "green" have been realized.

Our electricity rates have skyrocketed and there are zero worthy benefits from digital meters.

The utility industry claims that the FCC has determined that digital "smart" meters are safe, which is completely inaccurate because, in actuality, the FCC irresponsibly tested digital utility meters using inappropriate test protocols.

After thousands of reported and documented health and fire safety complaints from people from across this country, utilities continue to force digital meters on a mostly unknowing public.

Government agencies, including the FCC, simply ignore the facts and base their decisions on placing profits over human health and safety.

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